



City of Rochester Hills  
AGENDA SUMMARY  
NON-FINANCIAL ITEMS

1000 Rochester Hills Dr.  
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[www.rochesterhills.org](http://www.rochesterhills.org)

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Legislative File No: 2015-0293

**TO:** Mayor and City Council Members

**FROM:** Gerry Lee, Forestry Operations Manager  
Mike Hartner, Director of Parks & Forestry Department

**DATE:** July 20, 2015

**SUBJECT:** Tree Fund Policy

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**REQUEST:**

Request City Council to consider and adopt the attached Tree Fund Policy.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Tree Fund was created by the Tree Conservation Ordinance that was adopted by City Council on August 3, 1988.

Since its creation, funds have been deposited into the Tree Fund and currently sits at \$1,609,000 fund balance. These deposited funds along with interest earnings have supported the activities outlined in the Tree Fund Policy.

The existing Cooperative Tree Planting Program, initiated by Mayor Ken Snell in 1999, allows residents or business owners to share the cost of planting a right-of-way trees 50/50 with the Tree Fund. This program has been diminishing over the last several years, and for the most part the developer funded trees required by our ordinance have been completed as well.

We feel that the time is right to implement a fully funded city program to address some of the thousands of potential planting sites that remain in Rochester Hills that did not have the advantage of developer dollars or where trees were removed and not replaced by previous city paving or ditching projects in the last 25 years.

To allow a significant increase to the city's canopy cover, appropriate locations would be identified by the Forestry Division and would target up to 500 trees per year for the next five years (2016-2020) and could be extended if reviews were positive and funds were available.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

We recommend that City Council adopt the revised Tree Fund Policy.

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APPROVALS:	SIGNATURE	DATE
Department Review		
Department Director		
Mayor		
Deputy Clerk		